



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/692,077	10/23/2003	Albert Santelli JR.	Fram Trak-9	8311
28581	7590	08/08/2006	EXAMINER	
DUANE MORRIS LLP			REDMAN, JERRY E	
PO BOX 5203			ART UNIT	
PRINCETON, NJ 08543-5203			PAPER NUMBER	

3634

DATE MAILED: 08/08/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/692,077

Applicant(s)

SANTELLI, ALBERT

Examiner

Jerry Redman

Art Unit

3634

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 19 July 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5, 7-13 and 15-21 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 3 and 19 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 2, 4, 7, 8, 10, 12, 13, 15-18 and 20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) 5, 9, 11, and 21 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

Art Unit: 3634

The status of the claims is as follows:

Claims 6 and 14 have been cancelled; and

Claims 1-5 and 7-21 are herein addressed below.

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1, 2, 4, 7, 8, 10, 15, 18, and 20 are rejected under 35U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Fluck (3,114,946). Fluck ('946) discloses a sealing assembly (5) comprising a closure (9) having an edge, a surface (25), an edge cover (6, i.e., the second member 12 couples the edge cover to the door 9), a flexible seal (23), a coupling arrangement (14 and 22, i.e., the first member) for coupling the seal (23) and the cover (6) together, and two stop members (7 and 8 extend continuously as a flange) protruding beyond the coupling arrangement (14 and 22) to substantially prevent the coupling arrangement (14 and 22) from transmitting a force into the cover (6) when the cover (6) is moved to a closed position and the seal (23) engages the surface (25). Fluck ('946) further discloses the stop members (7 and 8) "facing" the interior surface.

Claims 1, 2, 4, 7, 8, 10, 15, 18, and 20 are rejected under 35U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Konle (4,509,292). Konle (4,509,292) discloses a sealing

Art Unit: 3634

assembly (Figure 4) comprising a closure (12, column 5, lines 51-54 discloses an overhead door) having an edge, a surface (the surface which is contacted by the sealing assembly), an edge cover (38), a flexible seal (48), a coupling arrangement (44) for coupling the flexible seal (48) and the edge cover (38) together, and two stop members (64, two projections extending continuously therealong and facing an interior surface of the flexible seal 48) protruding beyond the coupling arrangement (44) to substantially prevent the coupling arrangement (44) from transmitting a force into the cover (38) when the cover (38) is moved to a closed position and the flexible seal (48) engages the surface.

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 12, 13, and 16-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fluck ('946) in view of applicant's prior art Figures 2A and 2B. All of the elements of the instant invention are discussed in detail above except providing the closure to be an overhead door having a rounded edge with the sealing arrangement contacting a floor surface. The applicant's prior art Figures 2A and 2B discloses an overhead door (18) having rounded edges (20) and the sealing arrangement contacts a floor surface (24). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to provide Fluck ('946)

Art Unit: 3634

with an overhead door having rounded edges to seal a floor surface as taught by applicant's prior art Figures 2A and 2B since an overhead door allows the door to be moved out of the way of the opening and the rounded edges allows the seal arrangement to be easily mounted.

Claims 1, 2, 4, 7, 8, 10, 12, 13, 15-18, and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over applicant's prior art Figures 2A and 2B in view of Fluck ('946). The applicant's prior art Figures 2A and 2B discloses an overhead door (18) having rounded edges (20) and the sealing arrangement contacts a floor surface (24). Applicant's prior art Figures 2A and 2B fails to disclose a seal arrangement having stops. Fluck ('946) discloses a sealing assembly (5) comprising a closure (9) having an edge, a surface (25), an edge cover (6, i.e., the second member 12 couples the edge cover to the door 9), a flexible seal (23), a coupling arrangement (14 and 22, i.e., the first member) for coupling the seal (23) and the cover (6) together, and two stop members (7 and 8 extend continuously as a flange) protruding beyond the coupling arrangement (14 and 22) to substantially prevent the coupling arrangement (14 and 22) from transmitting a force into the cover when the cover is moved to a closed position and the seal (23) engages the surface (25). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to provide the sealing arrangement of applicant's prior art Figures 2A and 2B with stops as taught by Fluck ('946) since the stop protects to flexible seal between opening and closing movements of the closure.

Art Unit: 3634

Claims 12, 13, and 16-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Konle ('292) in view of applicant's prior art Figures 2A and 2B. All of the elements of the instant invention are discussed in detail above except providing the closure to be an overhead door having a rounded edge with the sealing arrangement contacting a floor surface. The applicant's prior art Figures 2A and 2B discloses an overhead door (18) having rounded edges (20) and the sealing arrangement contacts a floor surface (24). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to provide Konle ('292) with an overhead door having rounded edges to seal a floor surface as taught by applicant's prior art Figures 2A and 2B since an overhead door allows the door to be moved out of the way of the opening and the rounded edges allows the seal arrangement to be easily mounted.

Claims 1, 2, 4, 7, 8, 10, 12, 13, 15-18, and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over applicant's prior art Figures 2A and 2B in view of Konle ('292). The applicant's prior art Figures 2A and 2B discloses an overhead door (18) having rounded edges (20) and the sealing arrangement contacts a floor surface (24). Applicant's prior art Figures 2A and 2B fails to disclose a seal arrangement having stops. Konle (4,509,292) discloses a sealing assembly (Figure 4) comprising a closure (12, column 5, lines 51-54 discloses an overhead door) having an edge, a surface (the surface which is contacted by the sealing assembly), an edge cover (38), a flexible seal (48), a coupling arrangement (44) for coupling the flexible seal (48) and the edge cover (38) together, and two stop members (64, two projections extending continuously

Art Unit: 3634


therealong and facing an interior surface of the flexible seal 48) protruding beyond the coupling arrangement (44) to substantially prevent the coupling arrangement (44) from transmitting a force into the cover (38) when the cover (38) is moved to a closed position and the flexible seal (48) engages the surface. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to provide the sealing arrangement of applicant's prior art Figures 2A and 2B with stops as taught by Fluck ('946) since the stop protects to flexible seal between opening and closing movements of the closure.

Claims 5, 9, 11, and 21 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claims 3 and 19 are allowable.

The applicant's arguments have been considered but are not deemed persuasive. The Examiner spoke with the applicant in detail about the above rejections in an attempt to put the claims in condition for allowance.

Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to Jerry Redman at telephone number 703-308-2120 or 571-272-6835 after 4/9/2005.



Jerry Redman
Primary Examiner